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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 19, 1987 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 10 totaled an estimated 16.1 billion ton-miles, 5.7 percent below the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first two weeks of 1987 was an estimated 28.2 billion ton-miles, down 5.8 percent than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 10 totaled 358,134, down 4.4 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 36.8 percent above the preceding holiday week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 5.3 percent in the East and 3.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 13 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, chemicals and allied products were up 2,161 cars (8.9 percent). Nineteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 3 totaled 66,599 trailers and/or containers, 6.1 percent above last year.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/10/87:

	Loadings in Week ended January 10, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,719	D	2,557	9.4	I	9,741	65.0
Other farm products	5,057	I	522	11.5	I	1,462	40.7
Metallic ores	5,492	D	5,713	51.0	I	1,090	24.8
Coal	104,727	D	8,681	7.7	I	27,924	36.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,556	I	645	6.5	I	3,753	55.2
Nonmetallic minerals	9,022	I	415	4.8	I	1,331	17.3
Grain mill products	11,289	I	616	5.8	I	1,803	19.0
Food and kindred products	10,707	D	133	1.2	I	3,147	41.6
Primary forest products	11,535	D	226	1.9	I	2,933	34.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,220	I	632	9.6	I	1,953	37.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,117	D	130	1.0	D	48	0.4
Chemicals and allied products	26,390	I	2,161	8.9	I	3,630	15.9
Petroleum products	4,939	D	168	3.3	I	1,015	25.9
Stone, clay and glass products	8,893	D	371	4.0	I	1,815	25.6
Coke	4,029	D	130	3.1	D	99	2.4
Metals and products	8,284	I	80	1.0	I	1,176	16.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	16,448	D	5,273	24.3	I	11,804	254.2
Waste and scrap materials	7,956	D	263	3.2	I	3,068	62.8
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,293	D	2,874	55.6	I	778	51.4
All other carloads	65,357	I	4,803	7.9	I	17,974	37.9
LCL traffic	104	D	13	11.1	I	64	160.0
Total Cars Loaded	358,134	D	16,658	4.4	I	96,314	36.8
Corresponding week of 1986	374,792						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (2 weeks)	619,954	661,012	D 6.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 3	12.0	12.8	D 5.9
Week ended January 10	16.1	17.1	D 5.7
2 Weeks cumulative	28.2	29.9	D 5.8

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